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XII.—*Journey of Galvao da Silva to Manica Gold Fields, &c., in 1788, with Description of the Country South of the Lower Zambeze.* By JAMES MACQUEEN, Esq., F.R.G.S.

Read, June 27, 1859.

THE periodicals now publishing monthly at Lisbon give us much interesting information regarding the Portuguese possessions in Africa. The Portuguese Government, under the enlightened rule of their present Colonial Minister, Viscount Sa da Bandeira, are searching out from their archives, home and colonial, interesting and valuable journals of journeys, undertaken under the auspices and orders of former rulers, made by different individuals, and are giving these publicity. Amongst other interesting documents of this kind is the journey of Manuel Galvao da Silva in 1788, by command of the Governor-General of Eastern Africa, to the kingdom of Manica, and the famous gold-mines situated in that portion of Africa. This gentleman had previously been in the Brazils, and was well acquainted with the mining operations carried on in that province, and consequently a proper judge to examine the operations in that part of Africa called Manica, generally believed to be the Ophir of Solomon.

This journey of Galvao Silva enables us to correct the error which has hitherto prevailed regarding some important points in that portion of Eastern Africa, and is, therefore, at this moment particularly valuable. He left Sena on the 19th August, 1788, and at the end of four days he reached Santa, a fief of the crown of Portugal. Here he abode nine days. He set out again on the 1st September, and passing Sangue, another fief of the crown, he reached at the end of the fourth day the river Muaze, in the kingdom of Barue, where he was detained a day or more, and hospitably entertained by the Mambo or chief of Barue, who was anxious to trade with him. Pursuing his way, he crossed on the 6th September the river Xitora, and, soon after, the river Inhanzana, with its current so large that it could not be waded, and turbulent from the number of large stones in its bed. In a few days after, he crossed the river Arroango (Arroenha), which separates the kingdom of Barue from that of Manica. In his journey onwards the population of the surrounding towns and villages quitted their homes to see them and to receive them, for the purpose both of curiosity and traffic. Advancing, he reached the river Muvuze, where, during the night, the cold was almost insupportable, and next day in the afternoon he reached the celebrated fair of Manica, held near the capital, Massappa. The position of this place is fixed and checked by the estimated distance (about 50 leagues) from Sena to the south-west, and the distance of 55 leagues from Tete to the s.s.w., and will thus be in about 18° 40' S. lat., and 31° 50' E. long. Half-way between Sena and Massappa are found great mountains, composed chiefly of fine marble, and from which range several rivers flow, all abounding with crocodiles.

The place for the celebrated fair of Manica is situated between two small rivers, the Revue and the Mucorumaze, and is about two miles in circumference. This space is intersected with rivulets. The rivers mentioned are tributaries to the Mungora, running from the southward, at a few miles distant to the west, and joined by the river Mazavios. Descending from the south-westward from the mountains of Fura, their united streams are below joined by the Rucuto, and soon afterwards by the united streams of the Revue and Mucorumaze. The country around is hilly. In early times the quantity of gold annually found here was large. When Galvao da Silva was there the supply was much reduced, owing to the insecurity which reigned in the district, and from the sluggish and careless manner that the natives performed the work,

carrying it on chiefly near the surface of the earth. They dig openings about 6 feet in depth, and about 12 feet in diameter, and by the rudest process, simply by water from the adjoining streams, separate the ore from the earth. The gold thus obtained is afterwards carried to Sena (chiefly) and Tete, and thence to Mozambique, &c. In the mountains of Fura the precious metal is very abundant, and in a state called Manica it is found in white quartz, and is called by the natives white gold. Galvao da Silva was very anxious to see this, but the king or chief of the place hindered him. Iron-mines abound. The ore runs horizontally in the hills: it is melted into bars to be exported.

Massappa, and this fair, was at one time a most important place. It was regularly and well fortified, and had a regular garrison of considerable strength. In 1788 all was gone to ruin, and one piece of artillery only guarded its dilapidated walls. It had a small church, built of stone and brick, and covered with straw, dedicated to Senhora de Rosario.

When the Portuguese first subdued this state they advanced from Sofala through Quiteve, and extended their arms and conquests westward as far as the mountains of Abutua. This fact is important, because it shows that Abutua is not situated to the westward of the Zumbo, but at a considerable distance to the south of it. The fair or market of Manica was reduced to a deplorable state by the misconduct of a Portuguese governor, who was attacked by the great African chief Chingamera. This chief, whose extensive dominions were situated to the westward, extending on the southern banks of the Zambeze, and along these exceedingly mountainous districts, about and to the eastward of the present residence of Moselakatse, invaded and ruined Manica and the adjoining districts, and made them his tributaries. He placed over them one of his generals, named Chikango, which is thus the name of a ruler, and not of a state, as has hitherto been supposed; this chief again delegated his power at the fair of Manica to one of his favourite women, who collected the tribute for him, taking, like a prudent woman, good care of herself at the same time. The kingdom of Chingamera begins at forty days' journey west of Sofala. Manica extends to within a few days' journey of the Zimbaoe, or capital of Quissanga, situated on the river of Sabia, or, rather, the Chitassa.

The kingdom of Barue extends to the north-westward, along the confines of the province of Sena to that of Tete; where it is again met to the westward by the state of Sungue. All these, and several other states, at an early period, formed part of the great empire of Monomotapa, which included Sofala, or Quiteve, and Quissanga. Early writers represent it as an island, 700 French leagues in circumference, say 1600 miles, surrounded, in a great measure, by the Zambeze and its tributaries. The inspection of the map shows that this, in Eastern phraseology, was no bad delineation, as a tributary of the Zambeze reaches near to the head of the river of Sofala. To the south of Sena and the Zambeze the country is low, until at some distance it rises in the very high chain which separates the province of Sena from the country of Sofala.

Chicova, which abounds in silver, lies about N.N.W. of Manica and Zumbo, west-by-north of Chicova. To the southward of the state of Chicova lie Shangra, Tippooe, and Abutua. In the parallel of $19^{\circ} 30'$, to $20^{\circ} 30'$, S. lat., a vast chain of mountainous country runs eastward from the hill Ngwe to near Sofala, these mountains rising to the height of 7000 to 8000 feet above the sea.

Soon after his conquest Chingamera granted permission to the Portuguese to resume the fair, and to an officer belonging to them to reside there, to superintend it, upon payment yearly of one piece of Indian dimity, valued at 55s. In this state things stood when Galvao da Silva visited it. But the place and trade continued to decline, along with the other possessions of the Portuguese

in Africa. In the year 1854 the chief of the district sent to the Governor-General of Mozambique, requesting him to renew the trade, and to send an officer to reside there to superintend affairs for him, which was readily acceded to. In consequence of this movement Manica will probably soon rise into greater importance than ever.

Major Gamitto, in his able Survey of the Portuguese Colonial System and Colonies in Eastern Africa, has given us much valuable information regarding the whole, and especially of the Lower Zambeze. This work was drawn up in 1850, from practical personal knowledge of these possessions and places, and published at Lisbon, in the 'Boletim e Annaes do Conselho Ultramarino,' of May, June, and July, 1854. His information given concerning the Lower Zambeze agrees well with that given by Lieutenant Brown, one of the officers belonging to Captain Owen's surveying expedition, who went up the river as far as Sena. Himself and his companions were cut off by death from the pestilential fevers generated on the banks of the river, but his observations and papers were preserved, and reached his commanding officer in safety. According to Owen's survey, Quillimane is distant 10 miles in a north direction from Point Tangolane, at the eastern entrance to the river. At the town the river is about 1 mile broad; its bed hence upwards is about w.s.w., and gradually narrows from one-tenth of a mile to 300 yards, till, after passing through an archipelago of small islands, it narrows to 30, and to 20 yards at the village of Moombush, situated at Boca de Rio, or gullet of the river. Here there is, in the dry season, scarcely water to float a canoe.

From thence at that season the journey is made by land, occasionally coming upon the stream here and there, scarcely more than 16 to 20 feet broad, but with high banks on either side. At the end of three days' journey the traveller comes to the village of Masoora, or Mazora, situated on the east bank of the Zambeze, at the point where it separates into three branches: the small one going to Quillimane; a very large branch called the Musambay running to the sea, in the middle of the Delta, and which is navigable for vessels of large tonnage; and, thirdly, the Luaba, which enters the sea, according to Owen, in $18^{\circ} 55'$ S. lat., and $35^{\circ} 55'$ E. long.; but, according to Parker, in $18^{\circ} 50'$ S. lat., and $36^{\circ} 12'$ E. long. The depth of the water at ebb-tide was $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms in the channels, the width about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the tide rises 20 feet. There are some discrepancies amongst the different observers. Owen places Quillimane town in lat. S. $17^{\circ} 51' 4''$, long. E. $36^{\circ} 51' 3''$; Gamitto, $17^{\circ} 43'$ ditto; Lacerda, lat. S. $17^{\circ} 54' 24''$, long. E. $36^{\circ} 34' 15''$, making a difference of $17'$ in long. Owen places Tangolane Point in $18^{\circ} 1' 4''$ S. lat., and Lacerda places it in $18^{\circ} 0' 12''$.

The distance from Quillimane to the Boca de Rio is, in a direct line, 47 miles. The tide flows up till within 10 miles of this place, and it may be supposed that it flows an equal distance up the river Musambay and the Luaba, and which would bring the flow almost to the point of the division or separation of the streams. The Delta is all low, and goes by the name of Chingoma. While the Quillimane branch where it goes off is so narrow in the dry season, Gamitto tells us that the real breadth is about 80 fathoms during the flood, and that the river there washes over this space or dyke with great force and rapidity. The bottom of the stream is composed of loose sand thrown into it by the Zambeze, which here throws up a bank of sand and mud, extending over a space of 3 miles in the dry season, then spreading the most pestilential effluvia. Above the point of separation the Zambeze makes a most remarkable curve. It turns, as it were, "*upon itself*," says Gamitto. To the north of this is the chain of hills called Yemale, beautifully wooded, rising to the height of 800 to 1000 feet on the east side of the Zambeze, and to the north-west, on the same side of the river, appears the huge mass of the mountains of Morambula, above 3000 feet high, also finely wooded, and cut

by deep ravines. The Quillimane branch is properly called the Mutu. Three rivers (one of that name) enter it from the north, above the town of Quillimane. This town contains about 15,000 inhabitants, who are stated by Gamitto to be the most profligate, immoral, and licentious (especially the female portion thereof) to be found in the world.

From Mazaro to Chipongo is one day's voyage by water, at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile per hour, or say 16 miles. This will bring the distance, in direct lines, between Quillimane and Chipongo, to 100 geographical miles. Lacerda places Chipongo in $18^{\circ} 18'$ S. lat., and $35^{\circ} 15'$ E. long. From this to the mouth of the Luaha is, in a direct line, 65 geographical miles, and to Quillimane 100 miles, which distance agrees very well with his observed longitudes. The depth of the river from Mazaro to Chipongo, in the dry season, was from 2 feet to 2 fathoms, according to the channels taken. The banks and sand islands, 20 feet in height, are all overflowed in the rains. The magnitude and extent of the Zambeze are well ascertained from Owen's account, which states, Vol. II., that it is the largest river that enters the sea in all the east coast of Africa. "So great," says he, "is the rush of the floods from the various mouths (seven in number), that even 10 miles from the land the water is perfectly fresh!"

From Chipongo to Sena is, according to Gamitto, nine days' journey by water. Lieutenant Brown makes it seven or eight days; but he, perhaps, travelled quicker than the ordinary travellers. The distance is about 50 miles. The river about 1 mile broad. The river Shire, Chire, or Xire, enters the Zambeze on the east side, about 30 miles below Sena, with a rapid current.* This is an important river, and it is said that it can be ascended in boats, northwards, to the distance of thirty days' journey, or 300 miles. Sena is placed by Lacerda in $17^{\circ} 30' 50''$ S. lat., and $34^{\circ} 45' 16''$ E. long. Brown places it in $17^{\circ} 30'$ S. lat., but in $35^{\circ} 38' 8''$ E. long., making a difference in longitude of $53'$. This will still give nearly the same difference in longitude, in reference to Quillimane, as that by Lacerda. Which is the correct longitude it is impossible here to determine. Sena is, at present, a poor straggling place, with a few houses built of unburnt bricks and clay, and covered with straw, constructed without any regularity, and placed at a distance from each other. It stands on the west side of the Zambeze, and below a hill called Baramuana. It has a small garrison, located amidst buildings which scarcely deserve the name of fortifications. It carries on a trade by the Zambeze, upwards and downwards, and also with the states of Barue, Manica, and others to the southward and westward. This place, now so sadly reduced, was formerly rich and populous, had a college, and was the seat of a bishop. The white population consists of about thirty of both sexes.

From Sena to Tete is a journey of twenty-four days by water. During twelve days they navigate by the west margin of the river, on the 13th they reach the Lupata, and thence to Tete they navigate by the east or north bank. At the Lupata the river, from a breadth of 450 fathoms, is contracted to the breadth of 200 fathoms, which renders the current at all times rapid, and so strong that it is very difficult to stem it. Lacerda could not, and was compelled to take the road by land until the gorge was passed. So strong is the current, that it takes the boatmen four days to traverse the distance of only 12 miles through the gorge. They impel the boats by paddles, poles, and draw them also by ropes or lines made from the bark of the palm-trees. Having passed the Lupata, they rest one day to repair their tackle. The

* Gamitto states pointedly that the Shire runs on the West side of the Morambula mountains; the lake called Zachof, known to the Portuguese 240 years ago, connected with and on the Shire, extended from 15° to $15^{\circ} 50'$ S. lat., and in about 36° E. long.

navigation of the river upwards to Tete is much impeded by stones and rocks, and the strength of current amongst them is, according to Gamitto, generally from 7 to 9 miles per hour. At the western entrance of the Lupata is situated the small island of Mozambique, on the river. Lacerda places it in 16° 31' S. lat., and Livingstone in 16° 34'. A short distance above the Lupata the Zambeze is joined on the south side by the Arruenha, or Arroango, the collected waters of the streams from the regions of Manica. At all times this is a considerable river.

At Tete the Zambeze is above 460 fathoms broad. Tete is separated from Barue and Sena by the land of Sungue, and bounded to the interior to the southward by Tambara, Tepooi, and Massangano. These states begin at and south of the Zambeze, and go many leagues into the interior. The Arroango divides the lands of Tete from the territory of Sena, and the part of Manica where the fair is separated from Barue by the Arroango. Tete is covered on the south by the Sierra Cari. It has been nearly ruined by the wars with Monomotapa, and their neighbours the Minhaes. This province (Tete) is rich in gold, iron, and coal. The latter is found near the river Revugo. Tete trades with the Muzurumes and Zumbo. Tete is elevated and salubrious, the country round being rocky. The gorge of the river called Lupata is formed by the stream forcing its way through the Sierra Cuverantenga. Tete carries on much trade with the country of the Maraves, an industrious people inhabiting a fertile and healthy country to the north of the Zambeze, abounding in many places with gold, iron, &c., especially about Java and the river Bua. The climate of Tete is favourable for agriculture, and the soil fertile, producing readily cotton, coffee, sugar-cane, and all articles of tropical produce, fruits, and vegetables. Tete has a garrison of 200 Caçadores, and 28 pieces of artillery, and a considerable native force can at any time be quickly assembled. The neighbouring country is mountainous, covered with woods and forests.

From Cape Delgado southward the Portuguese have a string of settlements along the coast of the Indian Ocean, but little known, and, though small and detached as they are, yet, as a whole, they are of some importance, both as regards population and trade. The archipelago of Cape Delgado comprises 28 isles, between 10° 41' S. lat. and the river Lurio in 13° 31' S. lat. In several places in this distance there are good anchorages. The population of these settlements stand as under:—

	Christian.	Moors.	Banians.	Ballas.	Christian.	Moors.	Total.
	Free.				Slaves.	Slaves.	
Ibo	467	143	13	8	1333	137	2,422
Querimba	58	7	..	..	107	40	212
Pemba	29	3	..	..	36	21	85
Matemo	15	8	..	..	33	32	110
Arimba	63	30	..	..	115	103	331
Montessa	58	73	..	..	203	266	660
Quissanga	5	218	..	..	287	1003	1,514
Lumbo	68	57	..	..	210	280	615
Pangare	7	40	..	..	163	110	320
Mucimba	29	32	..	..	187	150	398
Lurio Demba (slaves)	..	..	..	..	5154	..	6,594
Tangue (free)	1440	..	..	..	..	..	
						Total	13,331

The distance from Ibo to Mozambique by land is ten days' journey by the regular course. This coast is generally healthy, and the facility of trading with the people of the interior is very considerable: some of the tribes are peaceable.

In 1808 the trade of the province of Mozambique was as under :—

Gold	100,000	cruzadoes.
Ivory	525,000	,,
Slaves	192,000	,,
Rice	112,000	,,
Wheat	61,420	,,
Miscellaneous	100,000	,,

Total 1,090,420

Or about 150,025*l.* sterling.

The revenue of the Crown from the rivers of Sena was—

48 Crown estates, district Tete, fines	708,322½	cruzadoes.
6 Exchequer ditto	56,077½	,,
27 Crown estates, district Sena	1,587,957½	,,
4 Exchequer ditto ditto	97,375	,,
13 Crown estates, district Quillimane	421,441½	,,
2 Exchequer ditto ditto	88,666	,,

Total 2,960,000

about 450,000*l.* sterling.*

Portuguese Military Force in East Africa.

	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Caçadores.	Infantry.	Total.
Mozambique	100	..	415	415	930
Isle de Ibo	30	..	..	140	170
Quillimane	25	25	200	..	250
Sena	25	25	200	..	250
Marrion	10	..	160	..	170
Tete	25	..	200	..	225
Zumbo	10	..	160	..	170
Sofala	25	50	100	100	275
Inhambane	30	50	100	100	280
Lourenza de Marquesa	30	50	100	100	280
Totals	310	200	1635	855	3000

Exclusive of the native militia force, drilled under European officers, which is very considerable, and which can be increased to a great extent.

The following, from the same authority, is, or rather was a few years ago, the export of Zanzibar :—

400,000	frazelas †	(Indian corn.)
350,000	,,	de Cravo Giro. (Cloves and spices.)
30,000	,,	gum.
14,000	,,	ivory.
10,000	,,	pimento.

Vessels frequenting the port yearly are as follows :—

Americans	12 ships from 200 to 300 tons.
French	6 ships from 400 to 600 tons.
Hamburg	6 ships from 190 to 200 tons.
English	2 ships from 150 to 200 tons.
Imam Muscat	3 to 4 of long voyages.

* See Memoir by Senhor Ferao, Journal Royal Geographical Society, vol. ii.

† The frazelas is equal to 34 lbs. Portuguese.—No. XX., pp. 211–222.

Stages from Sena to Tete.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sena to Prazo Sorre. 2. Sorre to Chemba. 3. Chemba to Inhacaranga. 4. Inhacaranga to Port Anguera. 5. Ditto to Anguera. 6. Anguera to Boundary ditto. 7. Boundary to Chiramba. 8. Chiramba to Miringonde. 9. Miringonde to Inhurassue. <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Inhurassue, in territory of Bo-
tangas and limits of Sena. 10. Inhurassue to Chituze. 11. Chituze to Chegogo. 12. Chegogo to Matope. 13. Matope to Bandar. <li style="padding-left: 2em;">Up to 12th day navigate by left
or east margin of Zambeze,
and again on 13th by right | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">margin. In mouth of the Lu-
pata. Spend three days to repair
the towing-ropes in order to
proceed by river to Tete. Very
difficult, because of rocks in it. 14. Bandar to Mocomaze. 15. Mocomaze to Cancoma; end Lupata
and beginning of district of
Tete. 16. Cancoma to Luana. 17. Luana to Chuze. 18. Chuze to Inhunerma. 19. Inhunerma to Domue. 20. Domue to Cassunha. 21. Cassunha to Inhalupunda. 22. Inhalupunda to Inhabaruavo. 23. Inhabaruavo to Bengo. 24. Bengo to Tete. |
|--|---|

From Bandar the navigation is by the right bank or side of the river. The journey by land is seldom taken, and only by negroes.

Land about Tete elevated and craggy. To the south it is covered by the Sierra Cumera. Gamitto, 'Boletim e Annaes,' &c., No. 4 of 1854, pp. 33, 34.

Sena to M. Lupata	12 days.
In ditto	1 day.
To end Lupata	2 days.
Beginning district Tete to Tete	9 days.

Total 24 days.

XIII.—*Journey of João Francisco from Massomedes to Caemdo in 1841.** By JAMES MACQUEEN, Esq., F.R.G.S.

Read, June 27, 1859.

ON the above day the party left the bay; went along and crossed the Baro to a place called Maubal. After proceeding a little to the north-east, their course became nearly due east; the country overspread with hills, mountains, and valleys, with many streams of water, but in that season of the year, the dry season, very low, and some of them having only pools of water standing in their beds. In their course eastward they crossed the different rivers marked on the map, most of them branches of the river Queena, bending their course north-westerly to that river, and some, in their farther advance, running to the Baro, as they approached the river Caculavar, or Caculavale. On the eleventh day of their march passed the capital of the Sova of Huila. The river Caculavale all comes from two lakes situated to the north-east. It has always water in it, and during the rains impedes travelling. The distance from Massomedes to this river about 60 leagues, which, as the days' journeys were short, and in the dry season, may be taken at 150 geographical miles. The capital of Huila, or Ohila, in 15° 2' s. lat., and 13° 20' e. long., only about two days' journey from the Caculavale. In one day's advance they touched upon a southern district of Quillingues, beyond the river Fata (always water), and near the great mountain Munda de Locondo. The chiefs received him

* See Map in the Journal of the Society for 1856.